U.S. Embassy Lusaka, Zambia Security Message for U.S. Citizens March 2, 2012

Possible Demonstrations in Mazabuka

The U.S. Embassy has received reports of possible demonstrations in Mazabuka today and has advised U.S. Embassy staff to avoid the area. If you are in Mazabuka we advise that you remain in your home or in a safe location; if you are outside of Mazabuka, we advise that you avoid the area.

Spontaneous demonstrations take place in Zambia from time to time in response to world events or local developments. We remind U.S. citizens that even demonstrations intended to be peaceful can turn confrontational and possibly escalate into violence. U.S. citizens are, therefore, urged to avoid the areas of demonstrations, if possible, and to exercise caution if within the vicinity of any demonstrations. U.S. citizens are advised to stay current with news media coverage of local events and be aware of their surroundings at all times.

You can stay in touch and get updates by checking the <u>U.S. Embassy in Zambia web site</u>. You can also get global updates at the U.S. Department of State's <u>Bureau of Consular Affairs Web site</u> where you can find the current <u>Worldwide Caution</u>, Travel Warnings, Travel Alerts, and <u>Country Specific Information for Zambia</u>. Follow us on Twitter and the Bureau of Consular Affairs page on Facebook as well, or download our free Smart Traveler iPhone App for travel information at your fingertips. If you don't have Internet access, you can obtain current information about safety and security can also be obtained by calling 1-888-407-4747 toll-free in the United States, or, for callers from other countries, a regular toll line 1-202-501-4444. These numbers are available from 8:00 a.m. to 8:00 p.m. Eastern Time, Monday through Friday (except federal holidays).

The Embassy cannot prevent you from traveling to locations despite a Travel Warning. For your personal safety and security and the peace of mind of your family and friends, it is useful for you to notify us in advance of your travel plans via the Smart Traveler Enrollment Program (STEP).

The U.S. Embassy in Lusaka is located on Ibex Hill Road, Lusaka. The Consular Section can be contacted at 0211-357-000, or via email at ACSLusaka@state.gov. For assistance after hours or in an emergency, you can contact us at 0211-357-000 or 0966-877-805.